

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 226261
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /013 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:WTSHINN, JR.:EJQ/LR
APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:WTSHINN, JR.
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P 062342Z SEP 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226261

FOR GARRISON FROM SHINN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. READER'S DIGEST INFORMS US THAT ONE OF ITS EDITORS, LAWRENCE ELLIOT, WILL VISIT MOSCOW IN MID-OCTOBER FOR TWO WEEKS AND PLANS AN ARTICLE ON THE EMBASSY--WORK, LIFE, TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS.
2. THE PRESIDENT HAS DECIDED IN FAVOR OF THE DRESSER SALE.
3. WE ARE TRYING TO FIGURE A WAY TO GET ANN MACFARLANE BACK ON TRACK AND OUT TO YOU IN 1980. HUSBAND LEW IS A FIRST-RATE 04 AND A TOP AFRICANIST. WE SEE ANN IN THE SCI SLOT BEHIND MANDEL (IF ANN WERE 04 WE WOULD BE PUSHING HER TO HEAD SCI). HOW ABOUT LEW IN THE MILES POSITION, SHIFT-ING PERINA TO POL/INT VICE SELL IN 1980? OTHER OPENING IS BEHIND KUSHLIS IN POL/EXT, BUT SHERROD AND BOB GERMAN AGREED
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THAT WE SHOULD TRY TO FIND A GOOD CHINA HAND (LIKE LYNN PASCOE) AS WE HAVE HAD REGULARLY IN THAT SLOT IN THE PAST. THOUGHTS?

4. RABBI ARTHUR SCHNEIER, PRESIDENT OF THE APPEAL OF CONSCIENCE FOUNDATION, WILL BE TRAVELING TO LENINGRAD FOR THE NIKODIM FUNERAL ON SUNDAY.

5. RE: MOSCOW 21225 ON DISCUSSION WITH SOVIETS BY ASST. SEC. RICHMOND ABOUT THE HEALTH JCM: BACKGROUND IS THAT IN A BRIEF PHONE CONVERSATION WITH A RICHMOND STAFF MEMBER, SOV DESK OFFICER OPINED THAT RICHMOND COULD PROBABLY NOT AVOID SOME TALK OF JCM SINCE RECORD ON PAPER IS THAT IN FEBRUARY SOVIETS PROPOSED AND US SIDE FORMALLY ACCEPTED OCTOBER DATES. HEW-SOV CONVERSATION DID NOT REALLY GET INTO DETAILS OF HOW RICHMOND MIGHT DEAL WITH THE DILEMMA: NOT TO WITHDRAW PREVIOUS ACCEPTANCE OF DATES, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME NOT TO STATE AN UNEQUIVOCAL INTENTION TO COME IN OCTOBER. REGARDLESS OF PHONE INTERPRETATIONS, CURRENT SITUATION IS THAT WE DO NOT HAVE A FINAL APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH THE JCM IN OCTOBER. WE HAVE PUT THE QUESTION, BUT DO NOT EXPECT AN ANSWER FOR ABOUT A WEEK. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES WE SUGGEST THAT RICHMOND NOT GO MUCH BEYOND SAYING TO THE SOVIETS THAT HE HAS CONTINUED TO KEEP THE DATES OPEN ON HIS CALENDAR AND WILL GET BACK TO THEM AS SOON AS HE HAS HAD A CHANCE TO REVIEW THE SITUATION ON HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON. WE DON'T THINK IT NECESSARY TO REFUSE TO HEAR OUT SOVIET IDEAS FOR THE TRIP, BUT IT DOES SEEM ESSENTIAL FOR RICHMOND TO PHRASE HIS OWN COMMENTS IN A WAY TO PROVIDE FOR THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE JCM MAY YET BE SCRUBBED.

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6. WE HAVE SENT YOU A FRONT CHANNEL CABLE ON THE PAN AM DECISION TO TERMINATE SERVICE. WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN IMMEDIATE REPLY TO THE ACTION REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUED PAN AM SERVICE TO THE EMBASSY, AS WE HAVE JUST BEEN TOLD THAT AN ACTION MEMO MUST GO TO THE ACTING SECRETARY TOMORROW, SEPTEMBER 7. WE RECOGNIZE THERE ARE POLITICAL AS WELL AS PRACTICAL REASONS FOR CONTINUING PAN AM'S SERVICE. HOWEVER, THE OFFICE OF AVIATION FEELS STRONGLY THAT WE SHOULD NOT ASK THE CAB TO DENY THE ROUTE TERMINATION REQUEST. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE226261
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WTSHINN, JR.:EJQ/LR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780363-0819
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780996/aaaadbqj.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6565fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1526844
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL
TAGS: OGEN
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6565fa56-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014